

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 3, 4, 6, 8, 14, 28 and 32 are amended. No new matter is added. Reconsideration based on the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Request for Acknowledgement of Consideration of Disclosed Information

An Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449 was filed in the above-identified patent application on March 5, 2002. Applicant has not yet received back from the Examiner a copy of the Form PTO-1449 initialed to acknowledge the fact that the Examiner has considered the cited disclosed information.

The Examiner is requested to initial and return the undersigned a copy of the subject Form PTO-1449. For the convenience of the Examiner, a copy of that form is attached.

II. Request for Acknowledgement of Claim for Foreign Priority and Receipt of Certified Copies of Priority Documents

A claim for foreign priority and certified copies of the priority documents Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-060403 and Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-049925 were filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on May 6, 2002. We enclose copies of the PTO Receipt for Filing of Papers bearing the May 6, 2002 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office date stamp and a copy of the first page of each certified priority document copy.

III. Request for Approval of Formal Drawings

Applicant respectfully submits that formal drawings were filed on May 6, 2002. Applicant requests acknowledgement of receipt of the formal drawings and approval of the formal drawings. We enclose a copy of the PTO Receipt for Filing of Papers bearing the May 6, 2002 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office date stamp.

IV. The Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5 and 14-33 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,222,357 to Sakuragi. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Sakuragi does not disclose, teach or suggest "a resistance value from an output end of the voltage source to a drive end of the light emitting element is smaller than an internal resistance value of the light emitting element," as recited in independent claims 1 and 30.

According to the paragraph bridging pages 2-3 of the Office Action and the paragraph bridging pages 11-12 of the Office Action, Sakuragi allegedly discloses this feature in Figures 1 and 2, Abstract, column 3, lines 13-24, column 4, lines 6-11, 19-31, and 44-67, column 5, lines 1-2, 8-29 and 45-67, and column 6, lines 1-8, 16-26, and 41-45. However, Sakuragi does not even discuss the "internal resistance value of the light emitting element." Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1 and 30 as well as claims 2-5, 28, and 31 which depend from claims 1 or 30 is respectfully requested.

Sakuragi does not disclose, teach or suggest "a voltage driving section for driving a light emitting element with voltage," as recited in independent claims 14 and 32. Sakuragi discloses transistors M1, M2 constituting a current mirror circuit where the current at the output terminal 2 is equal to the output current of the digital-to-analog converter 6. When the switching devices S1, S2 are turned off, the gate voltage of transistors M1, M2 is held by capacitor C1. In addition, the current set to the transistor M1 is supplied as a drive current to the light emitting element D1 by way of the output terminal 2 (column 5, lines 49-54). Therefore, the current mirror circuit of Sakuragi provides current to the light emitting element. However, the biased voltage source 5 does not drive the light emitting element D1 with the voltage.

Accordingly, Sakuragi does not disclose, teach or suggest "a switching section for changing between a voltage drive by the voltage driving section and a current drive by the

current driving section based on the input data," as recited in claims 14 and 32. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 14 and 32 as well as claims 15-27, 29, and 33 which depend directly or indirectly from claims 14 and 32 is respectfully requested.

In addition, regarding claims 4, 5, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24-28, 31 and 33, Applicant respectfully submits that the Office Action does not comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.104(c)(2) which states, "When a reference is complex or shows or describes inventions other than that claimed by the applicant, the particular part relied on must be designated as nearly as practicable." The Office Action does not provide a Figure with reference numerals or text of Sakuragi in support of the rejection of claims 4, 5, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24-28, 31, and 33. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 6-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Sakuragi in view of U.S. Patent 5,036,519 to Ema et al. ("Ema"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Sakuragi and Ema, taken separately or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest "a second voltage source for causing the laser element to be a forward biasing state and generating a second voltage that is larger than the threshold voltage of laser isolation," as recited in claim 6.

Although the Office Action alleges that Ema teaches "a second voltage, switching, etc with driving a laser element," the Examiner does not refer to any one of the circuit components in the 102 figures of Ema or any of the text in the 108 column specification, for teaching these features. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiners rejection does not comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.104(c)(2) which states that "When a reference is complex or shows or describes the inventions other than that claimed by the applicant, the particular part relied on must be designated as nearly as practicable."

Moreover, Sakuragi does not disclose, teach or suggest "a first voltage source for causing the laser element to be a forward biasing state and generating a first voltage that is

lower than a threshold voltage of laser isolation," as recited in claim 6. Sakuragi does not even discuss any type of relationship between bias voltage source 5 and a threshold voltage of light emitting diodes D1 and D2 of Figure 2 let alone any laser isolation.

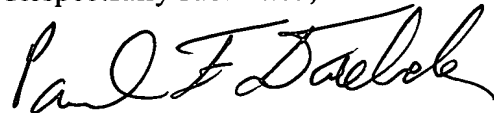
Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of independent claim 6 as well as claims 7-13 which depend from claim 6 is respectfully requested.

V. Conclusion

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-33 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:PFD/can

Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Information Disclosure Statement
Form PTO-1449 filed 3/5/02 with Date-Stamped Postcard
Copy of Priority Documents with Date-Stamped Postcard

Date: March 22, 2004

PTO RECEIPT FOR FILING OF PAPERS

The following papers have been filed:

appln trans, ck 128410 \$1226, 125pp spec/33clms/abs, 19pp drwns (1-33), IDS pto 1449
and 3 refs



Name of Applicant: Chikaho IKEDA

Serial No.: New US Patent Application

Atty. File No.: 112116

Title (New Cases): APPARATUS FOR DRIVING LIGHT EMITTING ELEMENT AND
SYSTEM FOR DRIVING LIGHT EMITTING ELEMENT

Sender's Initials: JAO/zmc

207/27



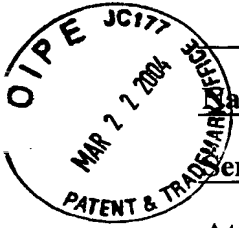
PATENT OFFICE DATE STAMP

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AND RETURNED BY MESSENGER**

PTO RECEIPT FOR FILING OF PAPERS

The following papers have been filed:

NTFMPWDDRAW, ck 130503 \$130, copy NTFMP, DEC, 21pp fml drwns (1-33), assign
trans, ck 130504 \$40, ASSIGN, CFP, cert cps JP 2001-060403 (3/5/01) 2002-049925
(2/26/02)



Name of Applicant: Chikaho IKEDA

Serial No.: 10/090,146

Atty. File No.: 112116

Title (New Cases):

Sender's Initials: JAO/zmc

262/27

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JAPAN PATENT OFFICE

別紙添付の書類に記載されている事項は下記の出願書類に記載されている事項と同一であることを証明する。

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy of the following application as filed with this Office

出 願 年 月 日
Date of Application:

2001年 3月 5日

出 願 番 号
Application Number:

特願2001-060403

ST.10/C]:

[JP2001-060403]

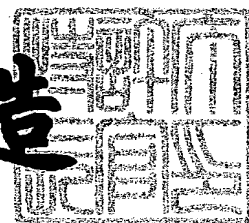
出 願 人
Applicant(s):

富士ゼロックス株式会社

2002年 3月 8日

特 許 庁 長 官
Commissioner,
Japan Patent Office

及 川 耕 造



出証番号 出証特2002-3014798

日 本 国 特 許 庁
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出 願 年 月 日

Date of Application:

2002年 2月26日

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Application Number:

特願2002-049925

ST.10/C]:

[JP2002-049925]

願 人

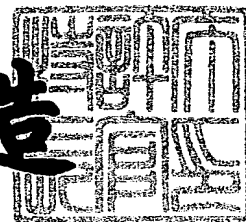
Applicant(s):

富士ゼロックス株式会社

2002年 3月29日

特 許 庁 長 官
Commissioner,
Japan Patent Office

及 川 耕 造



出証番号 出証特2002-3022116